

WHITMAN WILL INSIST ON HAVING OPEN BUDGET

New York Governor to Press Upon Legislature Need of Reform in Finance.

ALSO DEAL WITH PURE FOODS

Veteran Lawmakers Predict Busy Session—West Virginia Faces Big Debt Payment—Hot Fight to Come in Ohio Assembly.

ALBANY, N. Y., December 24.—Scheduled to convene on Wednesday, January 3, the New York State Legislature, which will thereafter take a brief adjournment for the purpose of completing the organization of both houses is very likely to transact business of extreme importance. Governor Charles S. Whitman will transmit his annual message to the lawmakers upon the day they take their seats, and until that document is received and the leaders of the two houses agree upon a program of legislation, it will not be definitely known just what is to be accomplished. The large working force of the Republican party in both the Senate and Assembly assures the consummation of whatever legislation is desired.

While Governor Whitman has not made known his program, it is hinted that he will lay considerable stress upon finance and will insist upon an open budget, which is fully explained. It is also predicted that some reference may be made by the executive relative to State-wide prohibition, though he is not expected to recommend the passage of such a measure in so many words.

The subject of the repeal of the direct primary law will likely be passed over by Governor Whitman in his message, although it is expected that a measure modifying the present statute will be introduced and passed.

Preparation will, it is expected, figure prominently in the annual message. Far larger appropriations for the National Guard will be favorably considered by the Governor, it is said. The military committee of both houses, in consequence, will be important working bodies during 1917.

Pure foods is another subject with which Governor Whitman is expected to deal in his message, and under this head the high cost of living, the results of the Wicks Legislative Investigating Committee, and the question of a State-wide market system are expected to be touched upon with more than passing reference.

Another subject which is expected to be dealt with by the executive is the report of Commissioner Charles H. Strong, whom the Governor appointed to investigate charitable conditions. It will be the policy of Governor Whitman this year to send in supplemental messages to the Legislature from time to time.

Veteran legislators predict a busy session and a lengthy one. The measures which are expected to come under debate are the liquor bills which will be presented jointly by the prohibition party and the Anti-Saloon League; the proposed amendment granting equal suffrage; the expected measure amending the direct primary law; important amendments to the agricultural law relative to preventive measures to check the spread of bovine tuberculosis; legislation aimed at the high cost of living; two bills one to be submitted by Governor Whitman, the other by the joint committee on finance and ways and means of the Senate and Assembly respectively; amendments to the motor vehicle law and diverse measures relative to the militia.

Before the beginning of the forthcoming session every member of the Legislature will have been supplied with the details of the budget. This step is a precedent made possible by a law passed last year empowering the financial committee of the two houses to continue in force throughout the year.

The amount of the legislative budget in round figures will be \$50,000,000, an increase over the financial bills of last year of about \$22,500,000. Of this amount, over \$10,000,000 will be charged to construction and repairs. The amount of the budget to be transmitted by Governor Whitman is expected to be considerably below this figure.

The Republicans in the upper house will number thirty-six, as against fifteen Democrats, and in the Assembly, ninety-nine Republicans, as against forty-nine Democrats and two members of the Socialist party.

WEST VIRGINIA FACES

CHARLESTON, W. VA., December 25.—When the West Virginia Legislature convenes here January 9, it will face complications more involved than ever before in the history of the State. As a result of the recent election, a Republican Senate, aided and abetted by a Republican Governor, will be pitted against a Democratic House.

The regular session follows closely on the heels of a special session at which legislation was passed guaranteeing the office tenure of Republican appointees after a bitter fight. It is considered probable that an effort will be made by the Democrats controlling the House the coming session to checkmate this move in some manner. Aside from many important State legislative matters that will be up for consideration, the Virginia debt decision promises to occupy a considerable part of the session. The courts have ruled that Virginia may collect from the State of West Virginia that portion of the State debt due when West Virginia was created a State out of Virginia territory. The interest has amounted to a huge sum and steps at this session must be taken to meet this situation.

MICHIGAN TO CONSIDER

NEW "DRY" STATUTES

LANSING, MICH., December 25.—The Michigan Legislature will convene Wednesday, January 3, and by far the most interesting issue with which it will deal is the drafting of prohibition legislation to make effective the constitutional amendment adopted by the people in the November election. This amendment goes into effect May 1, 1918.

A group of representative lawyers of the State early this month drafted a series of acts which will be submitted to the Legislature through dry leaders. The work was done in co-operation with the Michigan Anti-Saloon League, which called the legal conference, and these laws will undoubtedly be adopted by the Legislature substantially as the attorneys have written them, for

To-Day and To-Night in Richmond

A cademy—"Martha's" matinee, 2:30; night, 8:30.
Bijou—"Which One Shall I Marry?" matinee, 3; night, 8:30.
Lyric—Popular vaudeville; matinee, 1:30 and 3; night, 7:30 and 9.

The Weather

(Published by U. S. Weather Bureau.)

Forecast Virginia
Generally fair Monday, preceded by rain in early morning in north portion; Tuesday fair, colder.
North Carolina—Generally fair Monday and Tuesday, somewhat cooler Tuesday.

Local Temperature.
12 noon temperature, 41.
3 P. M. temperature, 43.
Maximum temperature to 8 P. M., 44.
Minimum temperature to 8 P. M., 31.
Mean temperature, 38.
Normal temperature, 39.
Excess in temperature, 0.
Deficiency in temperature, since January 1, 345.
Accumulated deficiency since January 1, 291.

Local Rainfall.
Rainfall last twenty-four hours, None.
Rainfall last twenty-four hours, None.
Deficiency in rainfall since March 1, 3.21.
Deficiency in rainfall since January 1, 4.25.

Local Barometer Readings.
8 A. M., 30.20.
8 P. M., 30.00.

Local Observations at 8 P. M.
Temperature, 43; humidity, 56; wind, direction, east; wind, velocity, 1 mile; weather, cloudy.

CONDITIONS IN IMPORTANT CITIES.

Place.	8 A. M.	High.	Low.	Weather.
Asheville	48	58	30	Cloudy
Atlanta	54	64	38	Cloudy
Atlantic City	40	49	34	Cloudy
Boston	39	49	24	Cloudy
Buffalo	34	34	24	Snow
Calgary	12	19	10	Clear
Charleston	60	68	46	P. cloudy
Chicago	24	34	24	Clear
Denver	20	48	14	Clear
Duluth	14	16	14	Clear
Galveston	60	68	44	Cloudy
Hartford	58	58	34	Cloudy
Havana	66	70	54	Clear
Jacksonville	66	70	54	Clear
Kansas City	32	32	24	Clear
Louisville	44	46	38	Clear
Montgomery	58	60	38	Cloudy
New Orleans	62	68	50	Cloudy
New York	32	34	24	Cloudy
Norfolk	48	48	38	Cloudy
Omaha	46	46	24	P. clear
Pittsburgh	42	42	32	Cloudy
Raleigh	48	52	32	Cloudy
St. Louis	38	46	24	Clear
St. Paul	10	16	14	Clear
San Francisco	44	48	34	P. cloudy
Savannah	54	58	46	Cloudy
Spokane	26	28	14	Cloudy
Tampa	68	72	62	Clear
Washington	38	38	28	Cloudy
Winnipeg	12	14	14	Clear
Wytheville	42	42	28	Cloudy

MINIATURE ALMANAC.

December 25, 1916.
HIGH TIDE.
Sun rises, 7:24 Morning, 4:24
Sun sets, 4:56 Evening, 4:56

the dries have an overwhelming majority in both houses.

Lieutenant-Governor Dickenson, the most pronounced dry politician in Michigan, was re-elected by a Republican majority, exceeded in the State only by that of United States Senator Townsend. He withdrew from the gubernatorial race in order to prevent the possible election of a successor who would be friendly to the liquor interests in organizing the State Senate.

Representative Rice, another dry leader, has pledged of sufficient votes to be elected Speaker of the House, and the liquor committee of both bodies will be dry.

BRITISH TARS ASKED NOT TO CELEBRATE

Admiralty Requests All at Sea to Refrain From Festive Because of War.

NEW YORK, December 24.—For the first time in the British mercantile marine for 100 years, there will be no Christmas celebrations aboard British ships to-morrow.

This request, made by the British Admiralty, applies to passengers and crews, and is actuated by sympathy for the men at the front.

The Adriatic with 100 passengers aboard, which sailed last night, had no holiday decorations. There will be no plum duff for the crew Christmas Eve, and no wine for the officers.

It is probable that the crews of tramp steamships and sailing ships, which have not been in a British port to receive the Admiralty request, will get a Christmas dinner.

Officers of the Adriatic said they believed it was part of the new government's policy to make every Briton abroad and ashore feel the seriousness of the struggle.

ESTATE TO CHARITY

St. Louis Widow Gives All to Poor So as to Avoid Squabbles.

ST. LOUIS, December 24.—Mrs. Hannah Duryee, eighty-one years old of Jennings, Mo., a widow, who announced her intention several months ago of giving away her entire estate, so that relatives would not "squabble over it," made good.

She deeded her ten-room house and the five-acre plot upon which it stands to Miss Mary Ella Sindlinger, president of the Josephine Club, with the understanding that it be turned into a home for incurables. She also set aside all her remaining personal property, amounting to about \$100,000, as an endowment fund.

FOUND CARDS AND DICE

Police Run Across Gambling Paraphernalia in Search for Woman.

Linne Betha, colored, was arrested yesterday afternoon by Patrolmen E. T. Dunn, R. W. Allen, W. E. Clarke and C. L. Clarkson, charged with the theft of \$70 from the person of John P. Hennrich.

While after the woman the officers ran into a room on the second floor of 602½ North Second Street and found two decks of playing cards, a pair of dice and eight excited negro men. All the men were locked up, charged with gambling. They were Henry Melvin, Eugene Isaacs, Lewis Washington, Fred Butler, A. A. Darron, Sidney Boynton, A. E. Seay and S. Golden.

GERMAN PEACE PROPOSAL STUNNING TO ENGLAND

Effect Upon Average Citizen is as if Hit by Falling Brick.

PEOPLE ARE TIRED OF WAR

Dutch Business Man Who Returns From London Paints Gloomy Picture of Country's Economic Condition—Lloyd George is Blamed.

BY WILLIAM HAYARD HALE.

THE HAGUE (via Berlin and Savannah wireless), December 24.—The effect which the German peace proposal in the streets of London is vividly set forth by a Dutch business man, who has just returned from the English capital. His trustworthiness is fully corroborated by information reaching me since the resumption of the boat service twice a week. He says:

"The effect of the peace offer upon the average Englishman was if he were stunned by a falling brick. Even before the Northcliffe papers and other jingo organs labeled Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg's message 'noisy bluff,' 'trickery,' 'indication of weakness,' etc., a reputable English business man, however, made to them the frank confession that in spite of the habitual boasts of certain newspapers, England is annihilating herself, that her industries are reduced to one-fifth of their former capacity, that her foreign commerce is restricted to a hatter with her impoverished allies.

While on the other hand she is hopelessly endeavoring to compete with the United States and Japan. The standard of living has become the most perplexing economic problem. Home labor is unobtainable or too expensive. The case of Liverpool was cited to me as proof of the fact that, assuming even that the building of new bottoms goes on uninterruptedly, it will take five years to restore the English shipping to its former position and volume.

"The Englishman who takes up in his confidence daily points out the fact that there is a growing feeling of depression in the industrial centers, where magnificent plants have been sequestered for war purposes, while skilled labor is diverted from its legitimate channels.

ELAME LLOYD GEORGE FOR PRESENT CONDITIONS

"Englishmen blame Lloyd George for the industrial and economic conditions and assert that an invading enemy could not have paralyzed the country more effectively. They must become reconciled if the other side of the ledger revealed positive military achievements, but the exact reverse is the case, and Lloyd George blindly informs his countrymen that they are now called upon to begin all over again.

"The Hollander asserts that the peace proposal revealed Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg to the English unwilling to be duped, as the one statesman who clearly perceives the catastrophic effect of a war carried on to its extremity. My informant adds his own impressions of the sentiment in London commercial circles as follows:

"The city does not care a tinker's dam about the opinions of the London press. New York is being looked upon as the oracle in the present period of tension. The peace party in the lower house is growing. Wherever I went I discovered that the German peace proposal was the sole topic of discussion. It set London topsy-turvy. Nowhere did I encounter any inclination towards prelatory rejection. There is much curiosity as to what the terms might be."

JAPANESE TROOPS IN RUSSIA

American Just Back Brings Report That They Are on Coast Defenses.

NEW YORK, December 24.—Robert van Iderstein, of the International Pipe and Marine Agency Corporation, who returned recently from a business trip to Russia, said yesterday that it was commonly reported on the streets of Petrograd and Moscow that Japanese officers were in charge of the coast defenses of Russian ports on the Baltic and Caspian seas.

"I had no way of verifying this report," Mr. van Iderstein said, "but Russians I saw seemed to take it as a matter of course that the Japanese should have charge of the coast defenses. The skill of the Japanese with big guns was admitted everywhere. Any unfriendly feeling that may have been engendered by the Russo-Japanese War has certainly disappeared.

"The Japanese prince was in Petrograd when I was there, and the city was full of Japanese officers and soldiers. The Russians were enthusiastic about the visitors. The prince attended the opera and, when he entered his box, the entire audience rose to greet him with thundering applause.

"The Russians firmly believe that the allies will win the war. I could not detect even an undercurrent of doubt or misgiving. They simply take victory for granted, and are only concerned over the months or years they may have to spend accomplishing it. And certainly Russia showed me no sign of weakening. I saw thousands of fresh recruits pouring into Petrograd. They were the young manhood of the peasant class, and they were the best war material I know of. Nor did the supply seem short. They kept coming in and coming in, and, from what I was able to learn, there were many more at the source.

"I was impressed, too, with the desire of the Russians to co-operate with the United States in a business way. Before the war Germany supplied most of Russia's needs. Now the Russians consider that the German market is closed to them, without respect to the end of the war, and they want to do business with the United States. I believe that America has a great opportunity in Russia."

Mr. van Iderstein said that prices in Petrograd and Moscow were higher than before the war, but not out of proportion to prices everywhere else. Business in Russia was going on without disturbance.

SHIPWRECKED CREW SAVED

Men From Unidentified Vessel Aboard American Bark on Way to Scotland.

(By Associated Press.)

NEW YORK, December 24.—A shipwrecked crew from an unidentified vessel is aboard the American bark Brown Brothers from Liverpool, Ga., from Troon, Scotland, according to officers of the Norwegian steamship Thorvald Halvorsen, which arrived here to-day from France. The Brown Brothers was sighted on December 19 about midway between the Newfoundland banks and the Azores.

Torreon Occupied by Villa's Forces

Many Foreigners Anticipating Attack, Depart Before Bandits Enter.

(By Associated Press.)

WASHINGTON, December 24.—Official reports to the State Department to-day from the border and Mexican interior points said Villa bandits yesterday occupied Torreon. No details of the attack were given except that many foreigners, anticipating that the attack would be successful, had departed before the bandits entered.

VILLA GIVES ORDERS

TO SPARE FOREIGNERS

EL PASO, TEXAS, December 24.—An American here, known to be a close friend of Francisco Villa, claimed to-day to have received information that Villa's forces captured Torreon at 1 o'clock on Friday afternoon. Villa gave orders to commanders there not to harm the lives or property of foreigners. It was stated, General Francisco Gonzales will leave Juarez to-morrow with his entire command to oppose Villa south of Chihuahua City.

A State Department representative, who received similar information, said he considered it reliable. The fight which preceded the town's occupation by Villa forces began at 4 A. M. on Friday, it was said.

This source confirmed the statement Villa had not harmed any foreign property, and had given guarantees to the foreigners still remaining in the city. Villa was not at Torreon in person, it was said, as he was in the vicinity of Permejillo yesterday. The report that Villa forces had occupied Torreon was accepted here as a fact to-day by Americans who have been watching developments in Mexico. The reports from Torreon brought by the refugees from Durango were that General Talamante had only a comparatively small garrison and the fact that the Americans left before the attack started was taken to indicate the apparent inability of the Carranza forces to withstand the attack.

BAN PLACED ON LUXURIES

(By Associated Press.)

VIENNA, December 23 (via London, December 24).—A law prohibiting the importation into Austria-Hungary of all articles of luxury became effective to-day. The list includes Southern fruits, champagne, chocolate, silk and half-silk garments, furs, toys, jewelry, musical instruments and perfumery. Travelers to Austria-Hungary are warned not to wear jewelry, which will be confiscated at the border.

PREMIER OF BULGARIA MAKES VISIT TO BERLIN

Leaves Sofia After Reading to Parliament Peace Offer of Central Powers.

OPTIMISTIC ABOUT FUTURE

Declares There is Absolute Accord Between His Country and Other Allies, in Methods as Well as in Aims of Common Policies.

BY WILLIAM HAYARD HALE.

BERLIN, December 24.—Bulgarian Prime Minister Radoslavoff has been in Berlin inognito for several days. Before his departure for Sofia he gave an interview, of which the following are the chief points:

"On the 12th of December, I read to the Bulgarian Parliament the peace offer of the central allies, and on the 13th I was on my way to Berlin. On account of the great distance from Sofia to Berlin, meetings between the central powers' statesmen are not as easy as between Paris and London, but in such a historic movement as the present it was evident a personal conference was desirable.

"It is true I have been in Berlin as quietly as possible, but on the eve of my return I have no hesitation in declaring I have been able to enjoy absolute accord between my country and Germany, as well as all the other central allies, in methods as well as in the aims of our common policies."

Radoslavoff is now optimistic regarding the eventual result of the peace offer. He said:

"It is hardly to be expected all the neutrals will remain longer inactive. They will hardly let slip the historic role which opens before them at this moment.

"On several occasions I have had the honor of seeing the Kaiser and of admiring his vigor and vitality. I found His Majesty's appearance splendid and his spirit full of confidence, so that I am going home in the confirmed conviction that everything on our side stands as well as possible. German fidelity to her allies is just as great as Germany's power against her enemies."

Radoslavoff stated that Bulgaria is in excellent economic condition. He continued: "We are not suffering either from hunger or the exhaustion which the entente is endeavoring to inflict upon Central Europe. Although the harvest this year is not so good, there is still plenty food for ourselves and our friends. We need nothing from Roumania except salt and benzol."

Bulgaria's Prime Minister spoke interestingly of the development of the relations of his country with its recent enemy, Turkey. He said: "The Turks

have known and watched for many years the policies I represented. It is, therefore, known to them that I have always been an advocate of friendly relations with Turkey. It is my pride that my royal master, whose wisdom and diplomatic skill have compelled the admiration of the world, has approved and brought about the alliance with Turkey.

"The Turks have fought by our side with such devotion that all the treaties written in ink have been rewritten in blood. For centuries the Turks have been proving themselves a valiant race of soldiers. With that tenacity which is peculiar to them, they will continue to battle shoulder to shoulder with the allies until an honorable peace is secured which will guarantee their borders for the future and gladden mankind."

COL. F. N. LAWRENCE DEAD

Was Former President of New York Stock Exchange and of Union League Club.

NEW YORK, December 24.—Colonel Frederick N. Lawrence, former president of the New York Stock Exchange, died this afternoon at his home, in West Fifty-Second Street, after an illness of two weeks. Chronic bronchitis was the cause.

Colonel Lawrence was in the eightieth year. With the aged financier at the time of his death were his daughters, Mrs. C. H. Mackinstry and Mrs. Mary Lawrence Keene, formerly the wife of Foxhall Keene.

Colonel Lawrence was a celebrated figure a decade ago. He was owner of some of the fastest road horses in New York, and was an enthusiastic supporter of trotting races on the Speedway. He was elected president of the Union League Club in 1908, and was president of the New York Stock Exchange in 1882.

During the Civil War Colonel Lawrence was commander of the Fifteenth Regiment of the New York National Guard.

DEATHS IN VIRGINIA

G. Muller.

G. Muller, a native of Germany, but for many years resident in this city, where he was well known in machinist circles, died at 12:15 o'clock yesterday afternoon at the Virginia Hospital. He was sixty years old. The only survivor is a daughter, Louise, who is attending school out of the city. The funeral will take place at 10 o'clock to-morrow morning from St. Patrick's Church.

John W. Starke.

John W. Starke, for many years prominently identified with local secret organizations, and for a long

BELLANS
Absolutely Removes Indigestion. One package proves it. 25c at all druggists.

while connected with the Evening Journal, died this morning shortly after midnight at his home, 11 North Sixth Street. Mr. Starke, who was fifty-two years old, leaves besides his wife, three children, John, Meade and Mrs. Margaret Starke. Funeral arrangements will be announced later.

Mrs. Mary S. Pearson.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
ALEXANDRIA, VA., December 24.—The funeral of Mrs. Mary S. Pearson, fifty-two years old, wife of Henry A. Pearson, who died yesterday at her home near Acotink, Fairfax County, will be held at 11 o'clock Monday morning at old Pohick Church, and will be conducted by Rev. S. A. Wallis, D. D., of the Episcopal Theological Seminary.

Mrs. Harriette Tallaferr.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
ALEXANDRIA, VA., December 24.—The funeral of Mrs. Harriette Tallaferr, who died in Berkeley, Cal., will take place to-morrow morning from the Protestant Episcopal Church. Services will be conducted by Rev. W. J. Morton, rector.

Alexander J. Wedderburn.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
ALEXANDRIA, VA., December 24.—Alexander J. Wedderburn, sixty-six years old, prominent in Alexandria, Fairfax and Washington, died this afternoon at his home in Washington. At the time of his death he held a position as deputy collector of internal revenue under Collector Moncreur, of Richmond. He was born in New Orleans, and for a number of years was identified with newspaper work here and in Washington, being editor and owner of different papers. At one time he ran for the nomination of Lieutenant-Governor. He promoted the big sesquicentennial celebration in Alexandria in 1899 and other celebrations. His wife, four sons and a daughter are living.

Mrs. Willie Russell Williams.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
CHASE CITY, VA., December 24.—Mrs. Willie Russell Williams died at her home here on Friday night, after an illness of several months. She was the wife of Norman H. Williams, president of the First National Bank of Chase City, and was one of the most prominent and highly respected women of the community. The funeral services were held from the home this afternoon and were attended by a large number of people from this and other places.

Mrs. Williams is survived by her husband and four sons, the oldest of whom is a member of the graduating class at the Virginia Polytechnic Institute. A handsome floral tribute was sent by the Virginia Polytechnic Institute Corps of cadets. Another son is a member of the third class at Virginia Military Institute.

BALTIMORE BY BOAT
\$2.50 One Way \$4.50 Round Trip
YORK RIVER LINE

See Window **Dreyfus** See Window

Remember

Our Semi-Annual Clearance Sale

Starts To-Morrow at 9 A. M.

See Yesterday's Times-Dispatch for Full Particulars